

In The Claims:

Please cancel claims 2, 5, 10, and 15.

Please replace claims 1, 4-5, 8-9, 13-14, and 17 as shown below. A marked-up version of the amended claims is attached to this Amendment.

1. (AMENDED) A system for selectively setting a variable operating parameter in a vehicle for an operator of the vehicle, the system comprising:

a portable information storage device having a storage element, means for receiving information representative of a particular operating parameter and storing the received information on the storage element, and means for generating an output signal based on the stored information;

a vehicle interface connected to an on-board vehicle control system having the variable operating parameter, the vehicle interface arranged to receive the output signal generated by the portable storage device for input to the on-board control system, wherein the on-board control system is arranged to set the variable operating value based on the information in the input signal;

wherein the portable information storage device further includes means for receiving, from the vehicle interface, information representative of vehicle usage by the operator, and means for storing the information representative of the vehicle usage; and

a non-vehicle interface connected to an off-board control system, and arranged to receive the output signal generated by the portable storage device for input to the off-board control system, and further arranged to access the stored information representative of the vehicle usage, wherein the off-board control system is arranged to set a variable operating value based on the information in the input signal and the information representative of vehicle usage.

4. (AMENDED) The system of claim 1 wherein the operating parameter comprises a user preference for at least one of the following: radio preset; climate setting; seat position; mirror position; suspension setting; power train setting; cellular telephone preset;

digital audio file play list; service history or schedule; preferred service provider for an a non-vehicle provided service; authentication information for e-commerce; vehicle access control; calendar reminder; wireless access setting such as Internet Service Provider (ISP); and vehicle service appointment scheduling based on a user's preferred day or location.

5. (AMENDED) A system for selectively setting a variable user preference in a vehicle comprising:

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a portable information storage device arranged to receive and store information representative of at least one user preference, and further arranged to receive and store information representative of vehicle usage by the user;

a vehicle interface connected to an on-board vehicle system capable of being set in accordance with a user preference, wherein the vehicle interface is arranged to receive user preference information from the portable storage device for input to the on-board vehicle system, and the on-board operating system is arranged to set the system based on the received user preference information; and

a non-vehicle interface connected to an off-board system, and arranged to receive the user preference information and the vehicle usage information from the portable information storage device for input to the off-board operating system, wherein the off-board operating system is arranged to set the system based on the received user preference information and the received vehicle usage information.

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8. (AMENDED) The system of claim 5 wherein the user preference comprises at least one of the following: radio preset; climate setting; seat position; mirror position; suspension setting; power train setting; cellular telephone preset; digital audio file play list; service history or schedule; preferred service provider for an a non-vehicle provided service; authentication information for e-commerce; vehicle access control; calendar reminder; wireless access setting such as Internet Service Provider (ISP); and vehicle service appointment scheduling based on a user's preferred day or location.

9. (AMENDED) A method of selectively setting a variable user preference in a vehicle comprising:

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determining at least one user preference and vehicle usage by the user;
storing information representative of the at least one user preference and the user's vehicle usage on a portable information storage device;
selectively recalling the user preference information and the user's vehicle usage information stored on the portable information storage device;
setting an on-board vehicle system in accordance with the recalled user preference information; and
setting a non-vehicle system in accordance with the recalled user preference information and the recalled user's vehicle usage information.

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13. (AMENDED) The method of claim 9 wherein the user preference comprises at least one of the following: radio preset; climate setting; seat position; mirror position; suspension setting; power train setting; cellular telephone preset; digital audio file play list; maintenance history or schedule; preferred service provider for an a non-vehicle provided service; authentication information for e-commerce; vehicle access control; calendar reminder; wireless access setting such as Internet Service Provider (ISP); and vehicle service appointment scheduling based on a user's preferred day or location.

14. (AMENDED) A portable information storage device for use with a system arranged to selectively set a variable operating parameter in a vehicle for an operator of the vehicle, said portable information storage device comprising:

a storage element;
means for receiving information representative of a particular operating parameter and storing the received information representative of the particular operating parameter on the storage element;
means for receiving information representative of vehicle usage by the operator and storing the received information representative of the vehicle usage by the operator on the storage element; and
means for generating an output signal based on the stored information, wherein the portable information storage device is arranged to interface with an on-board vehicle

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control system having the variable operating parameter, the on-board control system arranged to set the variable operating value based on the information in the generated output signal.

wherein the portable information storage device is arranged to interface with a non-vehicle control system, the off-board control system is arranged to set a variable operating value based on the information in the generated output signal.

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17. (AMENDED) The storage device of claim 14 wherein the operating parameter comprises a user preference for at least one of the following: radio preset; climate setting; seat position; mirror position; suspension setting; power train setting; cellular telephone preset; digital audio file play list; service history or schedule; preferred service provider for an a non-vehicle provided service; authentication information for e-commerce; vehicle access control; calendar reminder; wireless access setting such as Internet Service Provider (ISP); and vehicle service appointment scheduling based on a user's preferred day or location.